

"Establishment of Class E Airspace; Aniak, AK and St. Mary's, AK; Docket No. 99-AAL-7 (10-5/10-7)" (RIN2120-AA66) (1999-0328), received October 7, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 976. A bill to amend title V of the Public Health Service Act to focus the authority of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration on community-based services children and adolescents, to enhance flexibility and accountability, to establish programs for youth treatment, and to respond to crises, especially those related to children and violence (Rept. No. 106-196).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF A COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of a committee were submitted:

By Mr. CHAFEE, for the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Gerald V. Poje, of Virginia, to be a member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years. (Reappointment)

Skila Harris, of Kentucky, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for a term expiring May 18, 2008.

Glenn L. McCullough, Jr., of Mississippi, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority for the remainder of the term expiring May 18, 2005.

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. McCONNELL):

S. 1747. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to exclude certain Internet communications from the definition of expenditure; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1748. A bill to amend chapter 87 of title 28, United States Code, to authorize a judge to whom a case is transferred to retain jurisdiction over certain multidistrict litigation cases for trial; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAPO:

S. 1749. A bill to require the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to issue revised regulations relating to dietary supplement labeling, to amend the Federal Trade Commission

Act to provide that certain types of advertisements for dietary supplements are proper, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. KOHL):

S. 1750. A bill to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 1751. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to modify reporting requirements and increase contribution limits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. Res. 205. A resolution designating the week of each November in which the holiday of Thanksgiving is observed as "National Family Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. HELMS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. KYL, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. Con. Res. 61. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding a continued United States security presence in Panama and a review of the contract bidding process for the Balboa and Cristobal port facilities on each end of the Panama Canal; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. McCONNELL):

S. 1747. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to exclude certain Internet communications from the definition of expenditure; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

INTERNET FREEDOM PROTECTION ACT

Mr. BENNETT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1747

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1 SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Internet Freedom Protection Act".

SEC. 2. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS FROM DEFINITION OF EXPENDITURE.

Section 301(9)(B) of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (2 U.S.C. 431(9)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ix), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in clause (x), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(xi) any communication or dissemination of material through the Internet (including electronic mail, chat rooms, and message boards) by any individual, if such material—
"(I) is not a paid advertisement;

"(II) does not solicit funds for, or on behalf of, a candidate or political committee;

"(III) is disseminated for the purpose of communicating or disseminating the opinion of such individual (including an endorsement) regarding a political issue or candidate; and

"(IV) is not communicated or disseminated by any individual that receives payment or any other form of compensation for such communication or dissemination."

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1748. A bill to amend chapter 87 of title 28, United States Code, to authorize a judge to whom a case is transferred to retain jurisdiction over certain multidistrict litigation cases for trial; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MULTIDISTRICT JURISDICTION ACT OF 1999

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am introducing today a bill entitled the "Multidistrict Jurisdiction Act of 1999." This bill would restore a 30-year-old practice under which a single court, to which several actions with common issues of fact were transferred for pretrial proceedings, could retain the multidistrict actions for trial.

This bill is necessary to correct a statutory deficiency pointed out by the Supreme Court in *Lexecon v. Milbert Weiss Bershad Hynes & Lerach*, 523 U.S. 26 (1997). It is an important bill for judicial efficiency and for encouraging settlements of multidistrict cases. And I am pleased that the Judicial Conference and the Multidistrict Litigation Panel support this bill. Moreover, I am pleased that this is a bipartisan bill with Senators LEAHY, GRASSLEY, TORRICELLI, KOHL, and SCHUMER as co-sponsors.

Section 1407(a) of title 28, United States Code, authorizes the Multidistrict Litigation Panel to transfer civil actions with common questions of fact "to any district for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings." It also requires the Panel, on or before the conclusion of such pretrial proceedings, to remand any such actions to the district courts in which they were filed. However, for the 30 years prior to the *Lexecon* decision, federal courts followed the practice of allowing the single transferee court, upon the conclusion of pretrial proceedings, to transfer all of the actions to itself under the general venue provisions contained in 28 U.S.C. §1404. This had the practical advantage of allowing the single transferee court to retain for trial the multiple actions for which it had conducted pretrial proceedings. This greatly enhanced judicial efficiency and encouraged settlements.